

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in this application; claims 1, 5, and 9 being independent. In light of the amendments and remarks made herein, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections.

The Official Action

In the outstanding Official Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 5-6, and 9-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Vogel* (USP 5,668,596); rejected claims 3, 7, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Vogel*; and rejected claims 4, 8, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Vogel* in view of *Newman et al.* (USP 5,432,906). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Claim Rejections

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the interview conducted on October 8, 2002. It is respectfully submitted that the amendments and arguments contained herein conform to the discussions had during the interview.

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 5, and 9 to more appropriately recite the present invention. As evidenced by the Interview Summary dated October 8, 2002, the Examiner agreed that "converting the format of the digital image signal into a predetermined format used in a digital camera separate from the digital image generation means" will read over *Vogel*, the cited art of reference. Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 5, and 9 to include this feature. Based upon the parties' agreement that the *Vogel* reference does not teach converting the format of the digital image signal into a predetermined format used in a digital camera

separate from the digital image generation means, and as similarly claimed in independent claims 5 and 9, it is respectfully requested that the outstanding rejections be withdrawn.

It is further respectfully submitted that claims dependent on claims 1, 5, and 9 are now allowable based upon their dependency on allowable claims 1, 5, and 9.

CONCLUSION

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Catherine M. Voisin (Reg. No. 52,327) at the telephone number below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Version With Markings to Show Changes Made



REVISION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

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The claims have been amended as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) An image conversion system comprising:

a digital image generation means which reads out an image on photographic film and generates a digital image signal representing the image;

a format conversion means which converts the format of the digital image signal into a predetermined format used in a digital camera separate from the digital image generation means; and

an image signal recording means which records the digital image signal in the predetermined format on a recording medium which can be loaded in the digital camera.

5. (Amended) An image conversion system, comprising:

a digital image generator reading out an image on photographic film and generating a digital image signal representing the image;

a format converter converting the format of the digital image signal into a predetermined format used in a digital camera separate from the digital image generation means; and

an image signal recorder recording the digital image signal in the predetermined format on a recording medium to be loaded in the digital camera.

9. (Amended) An image conversion method, comprising:

reading out an image on photographic film and generating a digital image signal representing the image;

converting the format of the digital image signal into a predetermined format used in a digital camera, which is separate from a source from which the image on photographic film was read out of; and

recording the digital image signal in the predetermined format on a recording medium to be loaded in the digital camera.